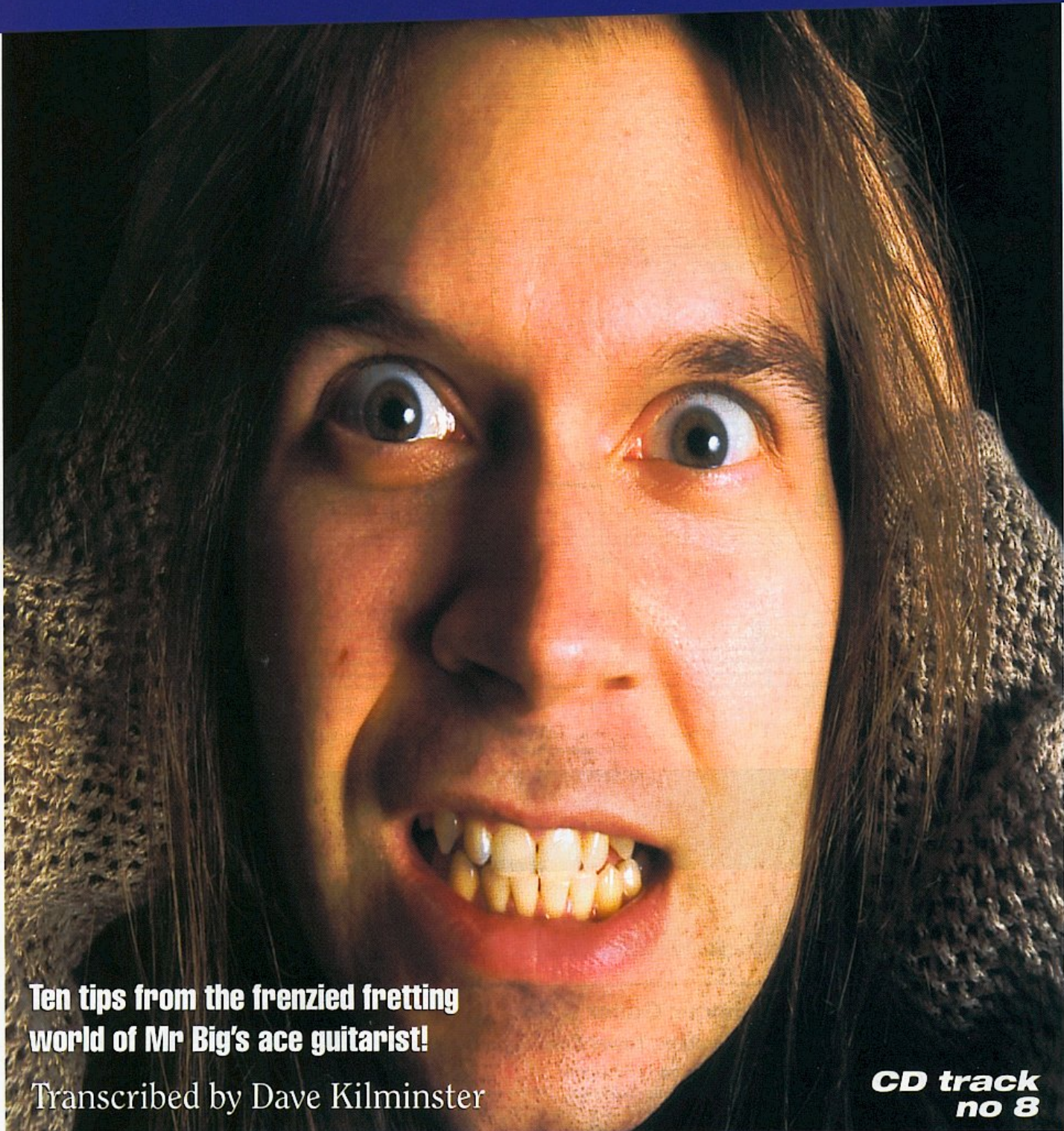


Paul Gilbert's Killer



Ten tips from the frenzied fretting world of Mr Big's ace guitarist!

Transcribed by Dave Kilminster

**CD track
no 8**

Paul Gilbert is almost as sought after as a teacher as he is a guitar player these days. His tuition videos and clinics prove that not only is he in possession of some monster chops, but has an infallible sense of humour, too. Paul benefits from the fact that he was teaching at the GIT in

Hollywood at the tender age of 19 and so he is accustomed to putting across information in a concise and instantly accessible package. Even today, with Mr Big's hectic touring schedule, he likes to keep his hand in and manages to squeeze some tuition between recording, rehearsing or gigging

with the band.

GT caught up with Paul at one of his recent clinics and thus have been able to decant some of his formidable wisdom to the page. So, without any further ado, **GT** is proud to present *PG Tips*!

Guitar Workout!

Ex 1a is an exercise Paul used to develop his picking co-ordination. When practising this one make sure that you keep the fretting hand fingers and the pick close to the strings and try to avoid any excess movement. Also ensure that you pick every note that you fret! Keep

the tempo at a point where both hands are working together – don't worry about trying to play it fast to begin with. Speed is a by-product of accuracy and practising this stuff too fast and sloppily will just mean that you get good at fast, sloppy guitar playing!

Ex 1a SEXTUPLETS FOR DAYS

$\text{♩} = 144$ *8va* *etc* *vib*

GT
TAB

Ex1b is a variation of 1a, this time moving down the neck diatonically in C major.

Ex 1b DESCENDING SEXTUPLETS

$\text{♩} = 144$ *8va* *etc* *vib*

Once you've got single string picking together the next stage is to apply the technique across two (or more) strings. Paul first demonstrated Ex 2a (staying in one position) and then Ex 2b moving up the neck, this time in the key of (what else) E minor.

Ex 2a STRING CROSSING SEXTUPLETS

$\text{♩} = 144$ *etc* *vib*

Ex 2b ASCENDING STRING CROSSING SEXTUPLETS

$\text{♩} = 144$ *etc* *vib*

Ex 3a GILBERTISED VAN HALEN LICK

$\text{♩} = 150$
 H PO H PO PO H PO H PO PO H PO H PO PO
 4 5 4 7 4 7 5 7 5 4 7 4 5 4 7 4 7 5 7 5 4 7 4 5 4 7 4 7 5 7 5 4 7 4

Ex 3b is the same idea but using different intervals on different strings and Ex 3c is my own variation again moving up diatonically in C major. All three ideas would sound great over an A minor chord.

8va

$\text{♩} = 150$

vib

H PO H PO PO H PO H PO PO H PO H PO PO BU

5 7 5 5 8 7 8 7 5 5 7 5 5 8 7 8 7 5 5 7 5 5 8 7 8 7 5 8 8 (10)

8va

$\text{♩} = 150$

Allegretto

etc

H PO H POPO H PO H POPO H PO H POPO H PO H POPO

E
B
G
D
A
E

(8va)

H PO H PO PO H PO H PO PO H PO PO BU

12 13 12 15 13 15 13 12 13 15 13 17 13 17 15 17 15 13 15 17 15 18 15 19 17 19 17 15 18 20 (25)

Exs 4a and 4b are classic Gilbertisms! Paul uses variations of these two licks all the time when improvising. You can see that both licks use exactly the same fingering patterns but on different string groupings (another popular Van Halen idea). Both of these ideas work around a B minor chord.

Ex 4a LEGATO FOR DAYS

$\text{♩} = 124$

6 6

H PO H H PO PO PO PO PO H H H PO H H PO PO PO PO PO H H

7 10 7 9 10 9 7 7 10 9 7 9 10 7 10 7 9 10 9 7 7 10 9 7 9 10 7 10 9 7 9 10

1

Ex 4b SAME LICK, DIFFERENT STRINGS

$\text{♩} = 124$

8va

6 6

H PO H H PO PO PO PO PO H H H PO H H PO PO PO PO PO H H

7 10 7 9 10 9 7 7 10 9 7 9 10 7 10 7 9 10 9 7 7 10 9 7 9 10 7 10 9 7 9 10

1

Paul often uses string skipping for his arpeggio ideas and **Ex 5** is something that he usually plays as part of his unaccompanied solo with Mr Big. Those of you brought up on economy picking may find the picking strokes a little bizarre but this is how Paul plays it and if you're used to alternate picking they make perfect sense.

Ex 5 STRING SKIPPING FOR ARPEGGIOS

$\text{♩} = 170$

8va

PO PO H PO PO PO PO PO PO H PO PO H PO

12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11

1

(8va)

PO PO H PO PO PO PO BU

12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11 12 9 13 11

3

Ex 6 is a scale-based string skipping pattern. Check out the intro to Paul's first instruction video for variations on this idea.

Ex 6 STRING SKIPPING FOR SCALES

♩ = 208

8va

PO PO 12 10 8

PO PO 8 10 12 10 8

8 10

12 10 9 10 12

12

E B G D A E

For the last four examples I've chosen a few extracts from Paul's back catalogue to show how he integrates some of these techniques into a song-based format.

Ex 7 is the intro to the Racer X track *Gone Too Far* taken from the album 'Second Heat'. If you're a fan of shredding then I can definitely recommend all four Racer X albums but especially 'Second Heat' and 'Live Extreme Volume'.

Ex 7 GONE TOO FAR - Intro

♩ = 96

Slight MU throughout

H PO PO

4 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 5 4 0 2

2 5 2 0 0 2 1 4 2 5 3 5 4 2 5 4 2 1 3 2 0 1

4 4

E B G D A E

Ex 8 is the classically-influenced picking section from the song *Daddy, Brother, Lover, Little Boy*. This solo also uses some string skipping scale (bar 3) and arpeggio (bar 4) ideas as well as a rhythmically displaced legato phrase in bars 5 and 6.

Ex 8 DADDY, BROTHER, LOVER, LITTLE BOY - Extract

♩ = 190

8va

(8va)

vib

H PO

PO PO PO PO

17 (17) 19 20

17 19 17 19 17 20 19 17 22 19 17 20 19 17 19 17 16 19 17 16 14 16

14 17 14 16 17 16 14 12 14 16

16

20 17 19 15 19 15 17 15 19 17 15 19 17 15

19 15 17 14 17 14 15 15 14 17 15 14 17 15 (13) 12 13 15

12 15 12 14 15 14 12 10 12 14 12 10 13 12 10 12 11 9 12 10 9 9

E B G D A E

Ex 9 is *Out Of The Underground* from the latest Mr Big album, 'Hey Man'. Technically one of the easiest things to play, it still sounds effective with its use of open strings and (for the most part) a rather uncommon 11/8 time signature.

♩ = 135

Finally, Ex 10 shows how you can play a pentatonic scale and not sound remotely like Eric Clapton! (*Plenty of us can do that already!* – Ed) The position shifts are a little tricky so I'd

Ex 10 ROCK AND ROLL OVER - Extract from outro

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Paul is an excellent teacher and so if you've enjoyed this lesson

Dave K **GT**